THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The tentative cost of the proposed identified links of the National Perspective Plan at 1995-96 price level is put at Rs. 3,30,000 crore.

(c) NWDA is an autonomous society and its expenditure is met through Grants-in-aid released by the Ministry of Water Resources. The total Grants-in-aid released till date is Rs. 10488.42 lakhs.

(d) and (e) National Water Development Agency has completed 137 water balance studies of basins/sub-basins, 71 water balance studies at diversion points, 74 toposheet studies of storage reservoirs, 37 toposheet studies of link alignments and 31 prefeasibility studies of links out of which 30 links have been identified for preparation of feasibility reports. Feasibility reports of five links have been completed.

Implementation of Supreme Court directions on Krishna water dispute

284. DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the latest directions of the Supreme Court over Karnataka/Andhra Pradesh water dispute on Krishna water; and

(b) the action taken to implement them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) and (b) The application of the Government of Karnataka before the Supreme Court on the construction by the Government of Andhra Pradesh of the Telugu Ganga and Srisailam Left Bank Canal projects on River Krishna came up for hearing on 8.10.2001 before a two Judge Bench who ordered that since in dealing with this application the interpretation of a judgement of Constitution Bench is required to be gone into, the matter be put up before the Constitution Bench.

Flourine in water in Kolar/Tumkur districts

285. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the alarming level of flourine contents in water in Kolar and some parts of Tumkur districts;

(b) whether Government are also aware of prevalence of water borne diseases in these areas; and

(c) if so, the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) and (b) High levels of Flouride in ground water has been observed in certain parts of the districts of Kolar and Tumkur. The excess flouride in drinking water causes water borne diseases.

(c) Provision of safe drinking water is planned, financed and implemented by the State Governments. The Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) provides technical services to the State Governments in this endeavour. The CGWB has taken periodic monitoring of water quality. The data thus collected is made available to concerned State agencies. One pilot project of reverse osmosis based technology for treatment of flouride has also been installed recently at villages B.K. Halli and Rajavanthi in Pavagada taluk Tumkur district.

National Policy to share inter-state waters

286. SHRI YADLAPATI VENKAT RAO: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a National Policy guidelines to share inter-State water for development has been ordered;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of State Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) to (c) The draft National Policy Guidelines for Water Allocation amongst the States was considered by the National Water Resource Council (NWRC) in its 4th meeting held on 7th July, 2000. Keeping in view the divergent views expressed by some of the States the draft Guidelines were referred to the Working Group of Water Resources/ Irrigation Ministers of all States/Union Territories under the Chairmanship of Union Minister of Water Resources to achieve greater convergence and agreement on the Guidelines. During deliberations of the Working Group held on 24th September, 2001 it was felt that the issue of the guidelines needs a fresh re-look by the National Water Board in light of the